Now, I have to make an announcement that after the Finance Bill, we will take up the Punjab Resolution for discussion and, after that, we will have the Constitution (Amendment) Bill regarding Sports.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI (Maharashtra): It means that Sports is coming up for discussion at night. Everytime it is coming up only at night. Whenever a discussion is there on Sports, it comes up only at night and it always gets a low priority.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Evening time is better for sports!

श्री राम अवधेश सिंह : महोदया, मैं इतना पूछना चाहता हूं कि आखिर यहां कब होगी । उस दिन रेलवे जी राजी हुए थे यह कहने के लिए कि किस दिन यहां होगी । कार्डिंग एटेंशन के रूप में डिसकस करें या शार्ट डयूरेशन डिसकस करेंगे । स्टील मंत्रालय ने 15 हजार करोड़ की तबदेही की है ... (व्यवधान) ।

उपसभापति : राम अवधेश जी, बार बार आप खड़े हो रहे हैं, आप एक दफा कह दिया, मैंने आपको जवाब दे दिया है। अब आप बैठ जाइए ।

श्री राम अवधेश सिंह : इनको ये रफा दफा करना चाहते हैं । यह होने वाला नहीं है । यह तो ... मुझे कहने दीजिए ...

उपसभापति : ... मैं ही बोल रही हूं । मेरे बाद ... बोलेगा । मेरा कहना ...

श्री राम अवधेश सिंह : महोदया, मेरा कहना है ... व्यवधान ...

उपसभापति : श्री राम अवधेश सिंह को क्या हो गया है ।

SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH:* ...

*Not recorded.

SPECIAL MENTION

Alleged attacks on Government officials by the ruling party goons in Tripura

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes. Mr. Dipen Ghosh, you speak... (*Interruptions*)... Otherwise, I will call the next speaker.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH (West Bengal): Madam, I am trying to speak, but he is interrupting. So, this is not correct... (*Interruptions*)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Use your loud voice and speak.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Madam, I am glad that you have allowed me to raise this Special Mention. A very serious situation has arisen in Tripura with the escalation of murderous attacks by the ruling party goons on the senior IAS and IPS officials. Madam, recently, the Addl. Chief Secretary of Tripura, a Senior IAS officer, who happens to be the Finance Secretary of that State, Mr. Subramaniam, was attacked and badly beaten by certain so-called unidentified youths. In the parlance of the newspapers, the youths are unidentified. But according to our information, the youths belong to the ruling party in that State. He was taken to hospital there. His injuries were so serious that he had to be shifted to a Calcutta hospital. He is still in a precarious condition in that hospital. Madam, the local Government had given a statement that he sustained injury because he had a fall. But the hospital records have revealed that the type of injuries he had sustained could not be only because of a fall but he was attacked from behind and there was a thud on his skull from behind and even the Lt. Governor of Tripura, Mr. Rao, had gone to visit him and his wife had also lodged a complaint to the Lt. Governor about that.

Madam, this is not an isolated phenomenon that a senior IAS official has been

attacked there because the senior officials were not towing the partisan line of functioning in the administration of the ruling party in that State. Earlier also, there was another IAS officer, Mr. Kameshwar Das, who was functioning as the Managing Director of Tripura jute Mills. He was also attacked in January this Year. Again, Mr. N. K. Sinha, PWD Secretary, three months ago was also attacked by the so-called unidentified youths then, again, an Indian Police Service officer, Mr. Kuldip Kumar, was attacked in the presence of a Minister of that State. Mr. M. K. Das, another top executive engineer, is still in the hospital. We say that the administration is supposed to be independent of any political, party running the Government. But here is a State where particular party having got the reins of administration is trying to bulldoze, trying to bully the officials belonging to the All India Service and they are being physically assaulted and attacked, as a result of which there is a see thing discontentment among the IAS and IPS officials in the State, they are seeking transfer outside the State. It has come out in the newspapers. A very serious situation has arisen there. Apart from this particular facet of murderous attacks, political opponents, one who was until recently the Chief Minister or the Deputy Chief Minister, MPs, MLAs and leaders of other political parties are also being attacked. Their offices are being ransacked and set on fire. I have a list up to January 1989. Since the Congress (I) and TUJS alliance came into power in that State as many as 65 party leaders and workers were brutally murder more than 90 times heinous, murderous attacks and other such acts were perpetrated on MLAs and others. More than 200 workers have faced inhuman tortures in Police lock-up and many are still held in jail. More than 200 party workers were mass-acred and their offices were looted, gutted, ransacked and occupied completely. Six thousand activists and leaders of democratic movement have been implecated in framed up cases. About 2000 party workers and mass leaders and individuals were attacked and beaten up. About 100 women were barbarously raped and no less than 200 cases of physical torture and molestation of women have been recorded. More than 500 workers were driven out of their homes and localities. There is a complete law of the jungle prevailing in that State. Through you I want to draw the attention of the Government, on a number of occasions in the past I had talked to the Union Home Minister and Minister of State, Mr. Chidambaram and after my talking to the Minister of State, Mr. Chidambaram, our party State committee office could be saved from the murderous attacks of Congress-I hoodlums. I again, through you, draw the attention of the Government to take up the matter immediately and intervene in the situation. Now the whole administration has collapsed there. The people have lost confidence in the administration. Even IAS and IPS officers are seeking transfer outside the State. These all-India services are supposed to be managed and controlled by the Central Government. It is time the Central Government intervenes and takes action against those people who are perpetrating these attacks.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Uttar Pradesh): I have a point of order. When I raised the Karnataka issue Mr. Dipen Ghosh took objection to it. Now you tell me under what rule he has raised the matter of a State. Or is that you are setting a new precedent?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Chairman had allowed him.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Now that you are here in the Chair, you tell me whether a new precedent has been set.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I told you, the Chairman had allowed him...

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: This is a law and order question. At that time also there was total lawlessness in Karnataka and I wanted to raise it.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You can ask for a Special Mention in whichever form you want to raise it and put it before the Chairman and let him take a decision.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry): Why cannot I raise a special mention about CPI(M) goondas and hoodlums?

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: When I wanted to raise about cooperative societies it was through a Special Mention.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You are welcome to give it to the Chairman. Any Member is welcome to write to the Chairman for a Special Mention and it is the Chairman's discretion...

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: What is your ruling on my point?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I gave my ruling.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: You make me understand it.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I think you have that simple brain power to understand a simple ruling, that you put your Special Mention of whatever you want before the Chairman. It is his discretion. Now Mr. Gurupadaswamy.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY (Karnataka): What we have been witnessing in Tripura is not a simple breakdown of law and order. It is a reign of terror. The Congress Party has come back to power in Tripura. Since then there has been a calculated and deliberate attack not only on the officials but also on the offices of political parties and on political workers. It looks as if the Congress Government there in Tripura has declared a war against the Opposition itself. My colleague, Mr. Dipen Ghosh, has quoted a number of incidents where Congressmen were involved. This is rather regrettable how a political party which is ruling the country here and also ruling in Tripura has been an active participant in spreading terror in the State. That pains me. And the offices of CPM have been ransacked. Not only its headquarters but other offices, the outlying offices. Women have not been spared. Their honour has been violated by hoodlums. It pains me that most of the hoodlums—or some, of the hoodlums—belong to the Congress Party. I would appeal to the Congress Party to observe civilised behaviour. Tomorrow it may apply to my party. I am more concerned about the breakdown of values, good behaviour. I would like the Congress Government there and the Congress Party in particular not to take this matter casually and this sort of a thing if it spreads elsewhere, I am afraid the time may come that we may not be able to contain it. I once again appeal for civilised behaviour. I am not for the rule of the jungle or anarchy to prevail. I would like an inquiry to be conducted into all the incidents that have taken place since the Congress Party came to power. It involves their image, their prestige. If the Congress Party, a political party, suffers, the other parties of the country will also suffer. From that angle I would like to say that things should not be allowed to be repeated and the hoodlums, wherever they are, whether they belong to the Congress Party,, or whichever party, should be hauled up and should be punished; and investigations should be conducted so that the guiltymen are brought to book.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA (Andhra Pradesh): Madam Deputy Chairman, from the reports we receive from Tripura, a very alarming situation appears to be prevailing there. Political parties change sides. Today one party may be in power. Tomorrow some other party may come to power. But certain democratic norms have to be observed. The moment one party goes out of power if it is subjected to this kind of a terror and civil servants, who fulfil and carry out the orders of the Government of the day, are made victims afterwards, then democracy cannot function here. And we were alarmed by the situation in Tripura. Last year one Parliamentary delegation, one group of M.Ps. visited Tripura for an on-the-spot study of the situation and they were not allowed to see the places The M Ps. were attacked and their cars were attacked and they were not allowed to see. Very senior members had gone from different parties. That itself shows

how goondaism is functioning there with the help of the ruling party, the present ruling party. This is a very serious matter and on lesser occasions and on minor incidents, the Union Home Minister had drawn the attention of the State Governments and had written letters to the Chief Ministers, pointing out certain incidents happening, particularly in the non-Congress (I) States. But, when such a serious situation is there in Tripura, I do not know why the Union Home Minister and the Prime Minister are keeping quiet. They should not only pull up the Government there but also immediately issue instructions to the party as well as the Government there to maintain law and order.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, यदि किसी राज्य में विरोधी दल के दफ्तर को आग लगायी जाती है, यदि किसी राज्य में वहां के चीफ सैक्रेटरी, एडीशनल सैक्रेटरी या आल इंडिया सर्विसेज के आफिसर को सरेआम पीटा जाता है, धमकाया जाता है तो वह मामला केवल राज्य का मामला नहीं रहता है उस मामले को यह कह कर इस सदन में उठाये जाने से नहीं रोका जा सकता कि वह कानून और व्यवस्था का विषय है। इस तरह की घटनायें तो लोकतंत्र पर कुठाराघात हैं वे हमारे संविधान का उल्लंघन करती हैं। मुझे लगता है कि त्रिपुरा का शासन इस समय संविधान की धाराओं के अनुसार नहीं चल रहा है। मैं चाहूंगा कि केन्द्र सरकार त्रिपुरा के गवर्नर से रिपोर्ट मांगे त्रिपुरा के गवर्नर को कहे कि त्रिपुरा की वास्तविक स्थिति के बारे में राजनीतिक स्थिति के बारे में केन्द्र को रिपोर्ट भेजे और केन्द्र देखे कि वहां का शासन अगर संविधान की धाराओं के अनुसार नहीं चल रहा है तो क्या त्रिपुरा की सरकार को कोई डाइरेक्टिव इश्यू करने का वक्त आ गया है। लेकिन इस तरह की घटनाएं बड़ी चिन्ता पैदा करती हैं। मैं, जो कुछ कहा गया है। उसके साथ अपने को संबद्ध करना चाहता हूं।

मैं फिर दोहराना चाहता हूं कि मामला राज्य का नहीं है और अगर विरोधी दलों के किसी राज्य में, विरोधी दलों द्वारा शासित किसी राज्य में इस तरह की घटनाएं होती हैं, तो वह घटनायें भी सदन में उठाई जानी चाहिए और उस समय भी मैं अपनी आवाज लगाऊंगा और कहूंगा कि इस तरह की घटनाएं देश के किसी भी भाग में नहीं चलनी चाहिए। लेकिन केन्द्र में कांग्रेस की सरकार है और त्रिपुरा में उसी पार्टी की सरकार है, अगर केन्द्र इसमें हस्तक्षेप नहीं करेगा तो और कौन उनको हस्तक्षेप करने का कोई नैतिक या संवैधानिक अधिकार नहीं होगा।

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA (West Bengal): Madam, a most unusual situation is prevailing in Tripura. I say that a deliberate attempt is being made to eliminate political opponents in Tripura by making free use of hooligans and unlicensed guns. What is the situation? The situation is that on 5th of May, there was a mass meeting called near the Government Sceretarait, and in the meeting itself two speakers happened to be the Ministers, including the one holding State portfolio, police portfolio, and in the meeting itself, these speakers including the Ministers incited the people. They told them that a robbery had taken place in Calcutta. That is the case of an actual robbery. But they painted the incident as a political attack by the CPI(M) goondas. As a retaliatory measure, they upon the people assembled in the meeting to take revenge. And just after the meeting, streams of armed people attacked the offices of the CPI(M). That was on the evening of 5th May. Believe it or not, before the attack started, the police picket that was posted there since morning was mysteriously withdrawn; before the attack itself, the telephone connections were all made dead. Therefore, it is not a case of some officers being attacked; it it is a case of pre-planned attempt to eliminate the political opponents in a particular part of India. I appeal to Congressmen to kindly ponder over this question. If this process is allowed to happen, what is going to happen to Parliamentary democracy? Shall we take the course of a totalitarian regime or shall we take the course which

[Shri Gurudas Das Gupta]

people of Pakistan have given up only some time back?...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Das Gupta, I will tell you.....

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: I have not told you the full story. I beg you to kindly let me continue for one minute more.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You were not there when the Chairman took the decision. A few Members of the opposition parties brought this to the notice of the Chariman that this matter is serious, and he allowed Mr. Dipen Ghosh to make a statement and everybody from those people would only associate. Now it was decided that due to shortage of time, no Member is going to make long descriptive speeches. You kindly associate yourself and sit down.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: I will take just one minute.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, I have already allowed you. Please conclude now.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Only one minute. My point is, if my charges are provel wrong, I stand to be punished by this House. Let there be a Parliamentary delegation: let there be an all-party Parliamentary delegation sent by the House. Let the Members of Parliament see for themselves as to what is happening in Tripura. It is an open challenge to the people who believe in so-called democracy.

Now my last point. If the people can retaliate in this way in Agartala because of a single case of robbery in Calcutta, do we have the right to retaliate in the same way against our political opponents in Calcutta? That is my question to the Congress people.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Saikia. I request you and the rest to please be brief. I think Mr. Dipen Ghosh and Mr. Gurupadaswamy took the responsibility, and you were a party to it. Don't make my hands tight because we have to start the discussion.

DR. NAGEN SAIKIA (Assam): I would like to associate myself with Mr. Dipen Ghosh, Mr. Gurupadaswamy and other speakers. The situation in Tripura is a very serious one and it should not be taken as a simple matter of law and order only. I think, cutting across party lines, everybody should condemn such incidents. If anybody does not condemn, it would mean that he supports hooliganism and goondaism in the name of party politics.

Madam, it has been published in the newspapers that some unidentified youth attacked the CPI(M) party office and some officials of I.A.S. cadre. Everybody knows that these unidentified youth were from the Congress(I) party itself. This is actually a calculated and deliberate attack on democracy and the political system in the country. I, on my own behalf and on behalf of my party, the A.G.P., express grave concern over the matter and I would request the Government, through you, to make an enquiry into the whole incident and punish the culprits.

SARDAR JAGJIT SINGH AURORA (Punjab): Madam, I associate myself with the hon. Member, Shri Dipen Ghosh's Special Mention.

I strongly condemn the reign of terror let loose by the Congress Party people. Unless we put a stop to these things where the Opposition is browbeaten or physically beaten, it would mean the end of democracy in the country which we cannot afford.

PROF. SOURENDRA BHATTACHARJEE (West Bengal): Madam Deputy Chairman, I fully associate myself with the Special Mention of Mr. Dipen Ghosh on the happenings in Tripura. Needless to say, it is a very serious situation and the Government of India must come forward with a statement of action, if any, on the situation. As Dipen Babu mentioned, he contacted the Home Minister, the Minister of State for Home, on this issue. If, even after that, the Government of India remains silent, they would also be responsible for the reign of terror because their attitude would encourage the perpetrators of this vandalism.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (West Bengal): Madam, this Special Mention raises certain basic questions. The basic point is, in a Legislature, there must be a ruling party and there must be an opposition. Tripura cannot be an exception to that. In Tripura, the Congress Party gained a majority in the Legislature. In what way, I would not like to discuss. That is another part of the story. I had an occasion to visit Tripura immediately after the elections. It was, at that point of time, a complete reign of terror and I found that the elections were not held properly. The elections were, in fact, rigged. As I said, that is a different part of the story.

I would like to know whether an opposition party in a Legislature has got the right to function normally. I would like to know whether the opposition party functionaries have the right to function normally. In Tripura, Mr. Nripen Chakraborty is the Leader of the Opposition. You cannot ignore this fact. (*Time-bell rings*) He is officially recognised as the Leader of the Opposition enjoying certain benefits as enshrined in the Constitution and in the rules of the State Legislature. His office was raided. An attempt was made to set the office on fire. The vehicle which belongs to the Government of Tripura and which is used by the Opposition Leader, Mr. Nripen Chakraborty, was set on fire. Does this mean that normalcy is there in Tripura? Does this mean that the Oppositoin has the right to function properly and in a democratic manner? Madam, it is not a question of killing somebody, it is the question whether the Congress Party will allow opposition parties to function in ths country in the normal democratic manner. Therefore, I raise my voice and I join my voice with Shri Dipen Ghosh. The Parliament, this Council of States has the right to say that no party should be allowed to destroy the normal democratic system in our country. It is an assault an our democracy, on our Constitution in a way. Madam, you are also our guardian, you should see that the normal, proper democratic functioning of the opposition parties in any State is not allowed to be subverted.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That guardianship I showed yesterday when I saved Opposition Members from the glass.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Madam, first save democracy and then democracy will save us.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I want to save democracy first. (*Interruptions*). Mr. Salve.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : महोदय, कल तो आपने हमें आसमानी मुसीबत से बचाया था एक सुलतानी मुसीबत भी है, उससे भी बचाएंगे जरा ।

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE (Maharashtra): Madam, to the extent the Opposition leaders have condemned violence which has political colour and character is something which we support and support unequivocally. Any political violence is a total anathema to the basic tenets and norms of parliamentary democracy. We stand for democracy because democracy is meant for a civilized society. But that is the end of the matter. They have tried to make out a case—very unfortunately, excepting Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee who was very calculative in words that he chose to make out the case—that the Congress Party as such was indulging in this kind of hoodulmery. This kind of violence is something which I refute totally, categorically. Whether it is the Congress... (*Interruptions*)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, Mr. Dipen Ghosh, when you were speaking Mr. Salve was very calmly listening. If everybody feels that this is a serious matter, it should be discussed in a serious manner. When you were making your point. I know, Mr. Salve was listening. I think he has a right, as a Member of this House, to speak. If you believe in democracy, you allow him to speak.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: Madam, while we agree with them in principle what they have said, they are not willing

[Shri N. K. P. Salve]

to extend the courtesy to listen to my viewpoint. (*Interruptions*).

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please do not disturb.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: In a matter like this, there is no such thing as opposition or ruling party. We are all one when it comes to safeguarding the basic tenets of parliamentary democracy. All I want to submit is, to make a case that the Congress Party as such is systematically indulging in this kind of violence is absolutely erroneus, wholly unwarranted because the ethos and culture of my party are unlike that culture of several parties who believe in violence. We have been saving parliamentary democracy. I am not naming any one, there has been political violence. This is not the first time that opposition party is sought to be treated in this manner but I submit very respectfully, should there be a set of people who have tried to burn the office of the opposition party and if an officers has been attacked, whether he belongs to Congress or BJP or to any other party, it is very reprehensible. An IAS Officer is attacked, it is very reprehensible. The matter must be enquired into, but in a matter like this if you are really very seirous, please do not make a political issue out of this. The only Member who did not make a political issue out of this is Mr. Atal Bihari Vajpayee. I am not wanting to divide them. I agree with him on principle.

श्री राम अवधेश सिंह : आप कमेटी से जांच करा लीजिए यह जो मांग की जा रही है इसको आप मान लीजिए ।

(व्यवधान)

श्री एन० के० पी० साल्वे : महोदया ये सब प्रजातंत्र के रखवाले हैं जो कि हमारी बात सुनने को तैयार नहीं हैं ? आप बात तो सुन लीजिए ।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is very unfortunate that a serious matter has been granted by the Chairman to be taken up today but it is not being taken seriously. We were not going to have Special Mentions, but on the request of the leaders of the Opposition, Chairman allowed this. I thought that everybody was going to take it seriously. Now, you have given your viewpoints. Let Mr. Salve also speak. Let us at least see that the democratic process is there in this House. Please sit down.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: Madam, I suppose that the miscreants who have done this kind of a thing, assuming that what is reported is correct, must be brought to book uncompromisingly, to whichever party they may belong. Therefore, my only request is, meanwhile please do not politicize the issue. Let us have some issue on which we gather together, let there be a fair inquiry, let the people who are guilty, culpable, be found out and brought to book. Until then, it is very unfair to run down any party, one party or the other because, I maintain, it is opposed to our ethos, it is opposed to our culture; we don't stand for it. If parliamentary democracy has been upheld, my party's hand has been very substantial in this kind of a thing. Therefore, please do not blame us unnecessarily.

In the end, only one word I have to say. I was hurt. Mr. Dipen Ghosh read out the totality of the crimes in that State and stated that the Congress Party is doing it. He is a responsible person. I submt only one thing: If there is any violence of any nature in any State, it certainly is not a State subject and not a Central subject; it is a much more important subject. Let there be a fair inquiry and let the miscreants be punished, to whichever party they may belong. I hope he will agree to implement it in his own State also.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Okay.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Madam, Deputy Chairman, thank you for giving me this opportunity. I associate myself with this Special Mention for the limited purpose that the officer has been attacked by unknown persons. ...(*Intruptions*)...Kindly hear me. Why do you react without listening?

Madam, the honourable Member, Mr. Dipen Ghosh, also from the CPI(M), agreed and said...

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: He is a Tamilian officer. Say a good word about him.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: He said, it is reported in the press that some unknown youth had attacked him. It is reported that the officer, after his morning walk, was coming back on a scooter... (*Interruptions*)... While he was coming back he was waylaid and attacked by some youth. He was found with some injuries and he has been shifted to Calcutta. Now he is in the hospital. He has not made a statement so far. Without that we cannot ascertain who have been involved in that crime. Now the Opposition leaders, especially the CPI(M) people, are giving a political colour, saying that it is only the Congress(I) people who attacked. It is totally false and the CPI(M) people are trying to get political mileage out of it by utilizing this opportunity. I would take only one minute and go back to West Bengal. While they are telling about Tripura, kindly see what is happening is West Bengal. So far, 198 murders have taken place in this year in Calcutta, and the victims are only Congressmen. They have not spared even the Central Ministers. When the Central Minister go to West Bengal, they have no protection in West Bengal. Apart from that some foreigners—four Russians—who went to 24 Parganas have been attacked by the CPI(M). The officers have been attacked They follow democracy in murdering people. The goondas and rowdies of CPI(M) follow democracy. They do not spare even their own party cadre who defy them. Such is the kind of attitude which the CPI (M) is following in West Bengal, and they are preaching to the Congress Party that it is only the Congressmen who had attacked the officer there. It is not a fact; it is a total falsehood. ...(*Interruptions*)...

Madam, while submitting that an inquiry is to be ordered by the Government—I agree with the honourable Members' view—I also submit that democracy is to be maintained in West Bengal also. I would like to tell them that Congressmen must be given protection in West Bengal even if the CPI (M) people are ruling there.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: You come with me.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Basumatari.

SHRI M. A. BABY (Kerala): Madam, the law and order problem in West Bengal has been seriously affected by infighting in the Congress(I). Some group of the Congress (I) tried to murder Mr. Priya Ranjan Das Munshi. The State Home Ministry had to send police to protect him. Such is the situation in West Bengal.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have identified Mr. Basumatari, please.

SHRI DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI (Assam): I have heard with rapt attention the statement made by Mr. Dipen Ghosh and also others. It appears to me that as if the Congress Government is killing. It is not that. An incident took place.

The other day, Madam, I had the privilege of visiting Tripura. What I found is that as Tripura is a tribal majority State, they are not allowing this Government to run. Why are they not mentioning Assam where Bodo tribals are being killed like anything?

Coming to this particular State mentioned by Mr. Dipen Ghosh, the situation may be so. I do not know. But it should be enquired into. But it is not that they are killing like anything. I had the privilege to go round the villages, I had the privilege to go round the area. The people are so happy having replaced the CPI(M) Government by the Congress(I) Government. So, I am very happy. I was visited by people whenever I went there. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Mr. Basumatari, you come with me.

SHRI DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI: There is not a single person from

this side or that side opposing the Government. Nobody spoke ill of the Government. Rather the people feel relieved by replacing the CPI(M) Government by the Congress(I) Government in Tripura.

Mrs. Gandhi once said in Parliament, in the other House when I was there: "Tripura is a tribal State. The tribals have been reduced to skeleton." So, she declared sixth schedule in the Hill areas there. I visited the tribal area many times. I have relatives there, our own men are there. But I did not hear any complaint against the Government either from the CPI(M) people or the Congress (I) people. The hill people are very happy. They are so happy that the say, "Though I am a communist man, I am happy." I met a Member from Tripura. I told him in the lobby just now that they are very happy with the Congress Government rather than with the CPI (M) Government (*Interruptions*)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No discussion on that. We are not discussing, Mr. Basumatari, please. (*Interruptions*) Don't get agitated. Please sit down, Mr. Basumatari.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): Madam, may I make one comment?

SHRI DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI: Madam, let me complete my sentence. The allegation brought by him is quite false.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This matter is over. We are going to the Finance Bill.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: May I make one comment? You are most impartial, Madam. All the parties made some suggestions to you. You kindly visit Tripura. On the way we have to touch Calcutta. So, visit West Bengal also. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: She found it very safe at twelve midnight.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: How do you know it?

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: She visited that place.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Subramanian Swamy, just one minute.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: You time it.

Madam, this is Rajya Sabha, that is Council of States. I am glad that we have agreed to discuss the States. I raised the Karnataka matter through a special mention. There also an IAS officer was involved. I was not allowed to proceed by these very gentlemen. I suggest that this must be enquired into. I have no expectation from the Congress. They would do like that.

But the question is, this kind of thing is happening in every State. I have given you notice about Dr. P. K. Rao who is being harassed in Andhra Pradesh by the Government there because he is suspected to have sympathies with the Janata party. You have not acted on that. (*Interruptions*) What do you mean by "ha,ha ha?" This is the duplicity of these People. They are getting exposed.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now we are getting late.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Why have you not taken notice of Dr. P. K. Rao's harassment? He is a renowned expert on irrigation. Is it just because I have not come and made an issue of it? I would like to know why this has not been raised.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Subramanian Swamy, you cannot ask why Chairman gave the premission. It is entirely the discretion of the Chairman to permit anybody and not to permit anybody. Now, we are going to the Finance Bill. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. A. BABY: Madam, he is the only Member form Tripura. He should be permitted. (*Interruptions*)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. Don't argue. (*Interruptions*)

श्री राम अवधेश सिंह : महोदया . .

उपसभापति : आप सब लोग बैठ जाइये । एक मिनट के लिए बैठ जाइये

राम अवधेश सिंह भी बैठ गए आप लोग भी बैठ जाइयें; आप लोग ऊंचा मेरी बात सुनिए।

Now, listen to me. (*Interruptions*) O.K. I will speak in English. Is it all right? Then Ram Awadhesh Ji will say that I should speak in Hindi and unnecessarily the time will be wasted.

SHRI M. A. BABY: He should be associated, Madam.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: O. K. You have associated. It has been taken note of.

SHRI M. A. BABY: He should be given one minute.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I would say that the matter is being taken seriously. Don't make a laughing-stock. (*Interruptions*) Just a minute. Please sit down. The matter is being taken serious note of. The Congress Members and the Opposition Members have made their point. The whole House has said on that. Now, please let us go over to the Finance Bill. We have got a heavy business today. (*Interruptions*) No, I won't allow.

SHRI NARAYAN KAR (Tripura): Madam, I associate myself with this....

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I said you are being associated. All those who have raised their hands, Please note their names and say that they have associated.

THE FINANCE BILL, 1989—(Contd)

SHRI P. BALANANDAN (Kerala): The Finance Minister, while introducing the Bill, has announced certain concessions to the tune of Rs. 173.2 crores. The bulk of it is on excise levies and Rs. 4.32 crores is on import duties. This concession will not yield any relief to the ordinary man. This is mainly for Picture tubes, television sets etc Concessions given to the mini-steel plants may help them to compete with big manufacturers. But at the same time the control on the cement distribution has been relaxed. As a result the price of cement Will also go on rising. The industrialists on the basis of the Budget proposals have already increased the price of articles. Even the concessions which have been announced are not going to be passed on to the consumers. It will go into the Pockets of the industrailists only. Therefore, the new concessions as usual are not going to give any relief to the poor people of the country. Because of the concessions the deficit in the Budget may increase from Rs. 7,337 crores to Rs. 7,450 crores. However, these concessions granted to the small industrialists are not going to be of any benefit to the consumers. Certain disturbing features of the finances of the country have been admitted by the Finance Minister while presenting the Budget. We all know that the Government is facing serious financial difficulties. This cannot duly be corrected unless fundamental changes are made in the cores hitherto being followed. However, since full-scale examination of the whole state of affairs is not appropriate now, I am confining myself to certain issues only which are of cores relevant today.

Our revenue receipts are hardly sufficient to meet the so-called non-Plan expenditure. The non-Plan expenditure for the year 1989-90 is Rs. 54,247 crores, while the revenue receipts are only Rs. 52,000 crores. Therefore, the whole Plan expenditure is being financed through the borrowed money from internal and external sources and through the deficit financing. Such being the situation, I am surprised to note that the Finance Minister has lowered the customs duties on import of capital goods etc. to the tune of Rs. 120 crores. The import of capital goods has been one of the sources of augmenting our trade deficits on the one side and escalating our external debts on the other.

Why such lowering has been made? The answer as far as I can see is to placate